

BULLETIN

Old Republic National Title Insurance Company

TO: New England Agents
FROM: Underwriting Department
DATE: August 20, 2009
RE: Eastern Bank – Counterfeit Official Checks in Circulation

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has issued a Special Alert (<http://www.fdic.gov/news/news/SpecialAlert/2009/sa09145.html>) relative to counterfeit official checks bearing the name Eastern Bank, Boston, Massachusetts.

From the FDIC website:

Eastern Bank, Boston, Massachusetts, has contacted the FDIC to report that counterfeit official checks bearing the institution's name are in circulation. Eastern Bank does not issue official checks; however, it issues personal money orders.

The counterfeit items display the routing number **011301798**, which is assigned to Eastern Bank. A security feature statement is embedded within the top and bottom borders. The words "OFFICIAL CHECK" and the statement "NOT VALID AFTER 90 DAYS" are displayed in the lower-left corner. One "AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE" line appears in the lower-right corner.

Authentic money orders have an outlined border with a security feature statement embedded in the bottom border. The words "PERSONAL MONEY ORDER" and the statement "NOT VALID FOR MORE THAN \$1,000.00" appear in the lower-left corner. A "DRAWER" line and an "ADDRESS" line are in the lower-right corner.

If you are unsure of the authenticity of an Eastern Bank instrument, please contact Eastern Bank for verification:

John Curtis
Fraud Investigator
Corporate Security
One Eastern Place
Lynn, Massachusetts 01901
Telephone: (781) 598-7474
Fax: (781) 598-7907
E-mail: j.curtis@easternbank.com

Any questions concerning the information contained in this Bulletin may be directed to your local Underwriting Department:

ê [Massachusetts & Rhode Island – 800-370-6466](tel:8003706466)

Marty Haller
Mike Gagnon
Anthony DeSantis
Terry Romaniak (413) 437-7182

ê [New Hampshire & Vermont – 800-884-8485](tel:8008848485)

Jane O'Sullivan

ê Connecticut – 800-451-8597
Kevin Huben

ê Maine – 877-691-2932
Mike Power